

ATTACHMENT B

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SOUTH CAROLINA PAID FEEDING ASSISTANTS CORE CURRICULUM

A. Basic Infection Control Practices - 1 hour

1. Describe basic infection control principles and proper handwashing techniques during meal service and feeding of a resident.
2. Demonstrate proper handwashing technique.

B. Respecting Resident's Rights - 1 hour

1. Describe the Resident's Bill of Rights.
2. Describe a minimum of two examples of promoting resident's rights during mealtime while feeding or assisting to feed a resident.
3. Define resident's rights to protection and confidentiality.

C. Communication and Interpersonal Skills - 1 hour

1. Describe and demonstrate appropriate social interaction and communication during feeding.
2. Describe several types of communication techniques as well as barriers to communication.
3. Describe the importance of effective communication.
4. Identify and describe appropriate responses to resident behavior, i.e. dementia resident.

D. Safety and Emergency Procedures - 1 hour

1. Describe signs and symptoms of choking.
2. Demonstrate management of obstructed airway (Heimlich Maneuver).
3. Describe the facility's emergency response plan, i.e., call system.

E. Feeding Techniques, Assistance with Feeding and Hydration - 3 hours

1. Demonstrate the knowledge that a feeding assistant feeds only residents who have no complicated feeding problems, including, but not limited to, difficulty swallowing, recurrent lung aspirations, and tube or parenteral/IV feedings.
2. Describe feeding techniques and hydration measures.
3. Demonstration of selecting proper diet and meal intended for a particular resident.
4. Demonstrate proper techniques in feeding and assisting to feed resident.
5. Describe and demonstrate facility procedure for computing resident intake during mealtime.

F. Principles of Observation and Reporting - 1 hour

1. Describe how to observe a resident for changes inconsistent with their normal behavior.
2. Describe how to report what is observed to the supervisory nurse.

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Requirements of Paid Feeding Assistant Program

1. Feeding Assistant Program must be a minimum of eight (8) hours.
2. Feeding Assistant Program must be **State Approved**.
3. Each nursing facility must maintain a record of all individuals used as feeding assistants, who have successfully completed the training course for paid feeding assistants. The nursing facility must also have on file evidence that the individual has successfully completed a state approved program with the necessary competency to feed a resident.
4. Feeding Assistant Program must be coordinated, performed by and under the general supervision of a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.
5. Feeding assistants must work under the supervision of a registered nurse (RN) or a licensed practical nurse (LPN) who is readily available.
6. A nursing facility must ensure that a feeding assistant feeds only residents who have no complicated feeding problems. Complicated feeding problems include, but are not limited to, difficulty swallowing, recurrent lung aspirations, and tube or parenteral/IV feedings.
7. The nursing facility must base resident selection on the charge nurse's assessment and the resident's latest assessment and plan of care.

State Approval Guidelines for Paid Feeding Assistant Programs

1. State approval is initiated by obtaining or requesting the South Carolina Core Curriculum for Paid Feeding Assistants, Requirements, and Guidelines from the Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) website at: www.scdhhs.gov or by mail or fax. The below agreement must be read, signed, and maintained on record by the administrator/program coordinator of the feeding assistant program and the DHHS, Department of Facility Services representative. **This agreement shall remain in effect as long as the facility has a feeding assistant program.**

By signature of the authorized individual below, _____
(please insert the name of your facility/program) agrees to follow the South Carolina Feeding Assistant Core Curriculum and requirements. _____ (please insert the name of your facility/program) understands and agrees that DHHS reserves the right to conduct announced or unannounced evaluations of our feeding assistant program at anytime.

Administrator/Coordinator Signature

Date

**Signature of DHHS Representative
Acknowledging Receipt of Agreement**

Date